

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Amethodofregisteringtwoimagesisdisclosed. To register a first image P1 with respect to a second image P2, a number of small regions (search ROIs) are set in first image P1, and a number of small regions (template ROIs) are also set in second image P2. A template matching is performed between those corresponding small regions, and a shift amount for (the central pixel of) each search ROI is determined. By taking each search ROI as a central search ROI, the shift amount for the central search ROI is bound with the respective shift amounts for the neighboring search ROIs by spring binding forces. The shift amount for the central search ROI is corrected such that the binding forces are balanced.